

# Environmental Education

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Voyageurs National Park



Pre-school through sixth grade

January – September 2015



## Greetings from Voyageurs National Park

National parks provide outstanding outdoor classrooms that support and enhance learning objectives in the classroom. The Environmental Education Ranger at Voyageurs conducts curriculum-based education programs that use the park's pristine landscape as a teaching tool for a variety of disciplines.

Education programs encourage students to explore, experience, and engage in the learning process. On-site programs take place at the Rainy Lake Visitor Center within the park.

Most programs are aligned with Minnesota State Academic Standards. For more information, visit the park website at: <http://www.nps.gov/voya/forteachers/index.htm>

## Scheduling Information:

To schedule an education program, call two weeks prior to your selected date. Please have alternate dates available and call Lisa Maass at (218) 286-5258.

- ♦ Winter-spring programs are available for individual classes only.
- ♦ Fall programs are available September 8-18 for groups or individual classes.

## Cost:

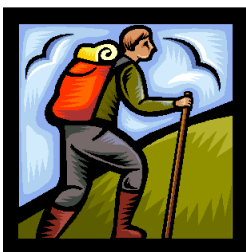
Voyageurs does not charge for education programs.

## Group Size:

All programs are limited to a maximum of 30 students and request a student/chaperone ratio of 8:1.



## A Call to Action: *Healthy Parks, Healthy People*



The year of 2016 is the National Park Service's 100th birthday; and in preparing for the second century, *A Call to Action* was assembled to request all National Park Service employees and partners to commit to actions that advance the Service toward a shared vision, with one of those visions being health and well-being. With this goal in mind, Voyageurs is committed to incorporating and promoting the health and well-being of people into our programs. Whenever possible, a physical activity or healthy choices component will be introduced into the program to encourage students to keep active and stay healthy.

## Pre-school—Kindergarten:

### ECOLOGY CLASSES:

**Color Walk.** . .students join a park ranger while hiking the Oberholtzer Trail looking for the different colors and shapes found within the park. 1/2 hr. Outdoors. *Fall-only.*

*MN Science Stds: 0.1.1.2.1, 0.2.1.1.1, 0.4.1.1.2, 0.4.1.1.3, 0.4.2.1.1*

**The Bare Bones.** . .students are provided with hands-on exposure using furs and skulls, and talk about different animals found within the park. 1/2 hr. Indoors.

*Fall-Winter-Spring. MN Science Stds: 0.1.1.2.1, 0.2.1.1.1, 0.4.1.1.2, 0.4.1.1.3*

## First Grade:

### ECOLOGY CLASS:

**It Makes Perfect Sense.** . .students explore hands-on by using their five senses to discover the park and its wildlife. Students will be physically active learning how wildlife use their senses to survive. 1/2 to 1 hr.

Indoors/outdoors. *Fall-Winter-Spring*

*MN Science Stds: 1.1.1.1.1, 1.1.3.1.1, 1.4.1.1.1*

### GEOLOGY CLASS:

**Rock-n-Roll.** . .students are introduced to the different rocks found in the park and learn why this area is important as a national park, geologically speaking. Indoors/outdoors. 1/2 to 1 hr.

*Fall-Winter-Spring. MN Science Stds: 1.1.1.1.1, 1.1.3.1.1, 1.1.3.2.1, 1.3.1.3.1, 1.3.1.3.2, 1.3.1.3.3*

## Second Grade:

### ECOLOGY CLASSES:

**I Spy.** . .students join a park ranger on a hike along the Oberholtzer Trail to discover seasonal changes and the many different “things” that do or do not belong in nature. 1/2 to 1 hr. Outdoors.

*Fall and Spring. MN Science Stds: 2.1.1.2.1, 2.2.1.1.1, and 2.2.2.1.1*

**Busy as a Beaver.** . .students will be provided with hands-on examples of the physical adaptations of the beaver and learn what an important role beavers play within the park. After which, the students will simulate a portion of the beaver’s life in an activity. 1/2 to 1 hr. Indoors.

*Fall-Winter-Spring. MN Science Stds: 2.1.1.2.1, 2.4.1.1.1, 2.4.2.1.1 2.4.3.1.1*

**Habi-Tracks.** . .by hiking around the visitor center grounds, students learn how to read a map and discover what components of habitat are necessary for survival for the plants and animals found within the park. 1/2 to 1 hr. Outdoors. *Fall-Winter-Spring*

*MN Science Stds: 2.1.1.2.1, 2.4.2.1.1. Geography Stds: 2.3.1.1.2, 2.3.1.1.4*

### OUTDOOR RECREATION CLASS:

**Snowshoe Shuffle.** . .students learn about the history of snowshoes and the different types available. Afterwards, students will go on a snowshoe hike along the Oberholtzer Trail or across the frozen, snow-covered Black Bay. 1 hr. *Winter only—individual classes at the park, or at the school.*



## Third Grade:

### ECOLOGY CLASSES:

**Mammals of Voyageurs National Park.** . .students are introduced to some of the mammals that inhabit the park. Skulls, furs, and track samples are used to explain the adaptations of these mammals. Afterwards, students will simulate the predator/prey relationships of these mammals in an activity. 1 hr. Indoors/outdoors. *Fall-Winter-Spring.*

*MN Science Stds: 3.1.1.1.1, 3.1.1.2 series, 3.4.1.1.1, 3.4.1.1.2, 3.4.3.2.2*

**If Not for the Trees.** . .students are introduced to the reason we need forests, what resources come from the trees, and the uses the Ojibwe people had for these same trees. Students will then hike around the grounds and identify different trees found within the park. 1 hr. Indoors/outdoors. *Fall and Spring.*

*MN Science Stds: 3.1.1.1.1, 3.1.1.2 series, 3.1.3.4.1, 3.4.1.1.1, 3.4.1.1.2*

### OUTDOOR RECREATION CLASS:

**Snowshoe Shuffle.** . .after a quick review of the history of snowshoes, students will have the opportunity to explore the “wonders of winter” with a snowshoe hike along the Oberholtzer Trail or across the frozen, snow-covered Black Bay. 1 hr. *Winter only-individual classes at the park, or at the school.*

## Fourth Grade:

### ECOLOGY CLASSES:

**Ecology Boat Cruise.** . .students will ride aboard the *Voyageur* tour boat and, depending on weather and number of participants, will either be introduced to the bald eagle and common loon or stop off and hike the Black Bay Beaver Pond Trail for a pond study. 1.5-2 hrs. *Fall only-maximum of 49 passengers (when funding is available)* *MN Science Stds: 4.2.1.1.1, 4.2.1.2.1, 4.3.4.1.1*

**Aquatic Life.** . .students will engage in a hands-on discovery of aquatic plants and animals using nets and field guides to discover what lives in and around the lakes of Voyageurs National Park. 1 to 1.5 hrs. Outdoors. *Fall-only.* *MN Science Stds: 4.2.1.1.1, 4.2.1.2.2.*

### CULTURAL HISTORY CLASSES:

**Ojibwe Lifestyles.** . .students will learn about the life of the Ojibwe people through hands-on demonstrations and activities. They will be immersed into the Ojibwe lifestyle, simulating how life changed from season to season. 1 to 2 hrs. Outdoors. *Fall and Spring.*

*MN Social Stds: 4.3.3.6.1, 4.3.4.9.1, .4.3.4.10.1, 4.4.1.2.1, 4.4.2.4.1*

**Life as a Voyageur.** . .a “voyageur” will lead students on a journey back in time to the fur trade era. Come and learn what this adventurous life was like traveling through the “New Frontier”. 1/2 to 1 hr. Indoors. *Fall-Winter-Spring.* *MN Social Stds: 4.3.3.6.1, 4.3.4.9.1, 4.3.4.10.1, 4.4.1.2.1, 4.4.2.4.1*

### OUTDOOR RECREATION CLASS:

**Bigfoot Two-Step.** . .while on snowshoes, students will have the opportunity to explore winter tracks of animals that have left their prints behind. 1(+) hr. *Winter only-individual classes at the park, or at the school.*



## Fifth and Sixth Grade:

### ECOLOGY CLASS:

**Oh Deer...**students will learn about animal population cycles and factors that limit population size while simulating deer and the resources they rely on. 1 hr. Outdoors. *Fall-Winter-Spring.*

*MN Science Stds 5.4.1.1.1, 6.1.3.4.1 MN Math Stds 5.2.1.1, 5.4.1.2*

### GEOLOGY CLASS:

**If the Rocks Could Talk...**students will investigate different samples of rocks found in the park and learn how the amazing geological features of the park were formed. 1(+) hr. Indoors.

*Fall and Spring. MN Science Stds: 5.1.1.1.4, 5.1.3.4.2, 5.3.1.2.1, 5.3.1.2.2*

### OUTDOOR RECREATION CLASS:

**Orienteering...**students will be introduced to the basics of using a compass. After which, they will use their newly learned skills and hike through an orienteering course. 1.5 hrs. Indoors/outdoors.

*Fall-Winter-Spring.. MN Science Stds: 5.1.3.4.1, 5.1.3.4.2, 6.1.3.4.1, 6.1.3.4.2*

## Traveling Trunks:

These portable classrooms contain lesson plans and props allowing you to bring a piece of Voyageurs into your classroom. Trunks can be shipped to any school in the continental U.S.

For more information, visit: <http://www.nps.gov/voya/forteachers>

**Wolf Trunk...**students learn about wolves, their habitats, and behaviors. This is a series of six 50-minute classes. *Grade: 4-6.*

*MN Science Stds: 5.1.1.1 series, 5.1.3.4.1, 5.4.1.1.1, 5.4.2.1.1, 5.4.2.1.2, 5.4.4.1.1, 6.1.3.4.1*

**Voyageur and Fur Trade Cassette...**students learn about the life of a voyageur and the fur trade, and the Ojibwe people. This is a series of six 50-minute classes. *Grade: 5-6.*

*MN Social Stds: 5.2.4.6.1, 5.3.1.1.1, 5.3.4.10.1, 5.4.4.16.1, 5.4.4.16.2, 6.3.1.1.1, 6.3.3.6.1, 6.3.4.10.1, 6.4.4.15.1, 6.4.4.16.1*



## Travel Grants:

Thanks to the National Park Foundation's *Ticket to Ride* grant, funding from Disney is available to help with transportation costs for K-6 grade classes visiting the park. For more information, contact Lisa Maass at the Rainy Lake Visitor Center at (218) 286-5258.



Coming to the park on your own?

Schools may come to the park and enjoy the visitor center, hike the Oberholtzer Trail, snowshoe, check-out one of the seven Discovery Packs, and view the park film on their own without a park ranger. However the park does request advance knowledge of the visit. Please call (218) 286-5258, Tuesday through Saturday, to let us know you are coming.



Voyageurs National Park  
Interpretation Division  
360 Highway 11 East  
International Falls, MN 56649  
[www.nps.gov/voya](http://www.nps.gov/voya)

Schedule a Program Today!